

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2262
ANSWERED ON:18.03.2002
PADDY CULTIVATION
PRAKASH V. PATIL

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) the total area of land under paddy cultivation in the country including Maharashtra;
- (b) whether there has been decline in the area under paddy cultivation in the country during the last three years;
- (c) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) the steps taken by the Government to increase the area under paddy cultivation and to boost paddy production particularly in Maharashtra?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV)

(a) to (c): Area under rice cultivation at all India level and in Maharashtra during last three years is as under:-

(area in million hectare)

Years	All India	Maharashtra
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1998-99	44.82	1.48
1999-2000	45.16	1.52
2000-2001	44.36	1.51

There is no significant change in the area under Rice.

(d): In order to improve the production and productivity of Rice in the country, a Centrally Sponsored Scheme of ICDP-Rice is being implemented under Macro Management Scheme. Besides, a Central Sector Scheme of Rice Seed Minikit Programme has also been implemented. The State Government of Maharashtra is also taking a number of steps in this regard as under:-

- (i) Increasing area under hybrid and improved varieties of paddy.
- (ii) Improving seed replacement ratio.
- (iii) Transfer of improved crop production technology.
- (iv) Timely management of pests and diseases.
- (v) Increasing area under protective irrigation.
- (vi) Organizing technology demonstration to the farmers and imparting training to the farmers.